

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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-----106559 090252Z /61

R 081637Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5400
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 19921

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PINS SY XF FR
SUBJ: QUAI COMMENT ON KHADDAM VISIT TO PARIS

1. THE FRENCH RECEIVED THE CLEAR IMPRESSION DURING SYRIAN FONMIN KHADDAM'S VISIT TO PARIS LAST WEEK THAT THE SYRIANS BELIEVE PRESIDENT CARTER IS SINCERE IN HIS ME SETTLEMENT EFFORTS, ACCORDING TO QUAI DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AFRICA AND THE LEVANT PIERRE CERLES. THE FRENCH BELIEVE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION'S CREDIBILITY WITH THE SYRIANS WILL BE HELPFUL TO WESTERN PEACE EFFORTS.

2. KHADDAM'S PRESENTATION TO THE FRENCH OF SYRIAN
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VIEWS ON A SETTLEMENT PRODUCED NO REAL SURPRISES, CERLES SAID. INTER ALIA, KHADDAM INDICATED THAT THE SYRIANS ARE NOT WEDDED TO THE IDEA OF A SEPARATE PALESTINIAN STATE AND WOULD NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A JORDANO-PALESTINIAN FEDERATION. HE ALSO SAID THAT JORDAN AND SYRIA ARE CONTINUING THEIR DISCUSSIONS OF A CONFEDERATION BETWEEN THE TWO

COUNTRIES.

3. AS EXPECTED, KHADDAM BEMOANED BEGIN'S ELECTION AS A SET-BACK TO PEACE EFFORTS. THE FRENCH COUNTERED THAT RECENT BEGIN STATEMENTS ARE MODERATELY ENCOURAGING AND THAT A BEGIN GOVERNMENT MAY BE ABLE TO NEGOTIATE BETTER THAN RABIN COULD SINCE THE FORMER WILL BE LESS SUBJECT TO RIGHTIST CRITICISM, A SITUATION PARALLELING DEGAULLE WITH ALGERIA AND NIXON WITH CHINA. KHADDAM SAID SYRIA HOPED TO ORGANIZE AN ARAB SUMMIT MEETING AFTER BEGIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON TO REVISE ARAB STRATEGY IN LIGHT OF THE ISRAELI'S VISIT. HE ALSO IMPLIED THAT MODERATE ARAB GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE THREATENED IF EARLY PROGRESS TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT IS NOT MADE.

4. CERLES OFFERED NO DETAILS ON BILATERAL TALKS ABOUT LEBANON. HE DID SAY THAT ARAB AND ISRAELI REACTION TO THE EC ME DECLARATION WAS VERY MUCH AS EXPECTED. HARTMAN

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Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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